

I would like to provide comments to the FCC on the E-Rate NPRM, proceeding 13-184. Cleveland City Schools is a small school district in rural Cleveland, Tennessee. We currently have just over 5,000 students and 700 faculty and staff. As a district, we rely heavily on E-Rate funds to sustain fast broadband speeds, VoIP, local telecommunications, and cellular phone systems.

We would like to support any increase in E-Rate funds to school systems and libraries. With more and more instruction depending on a fast and reliable connection to the Internet, the role E-Rate dollars becomes essential. We cannot afford to shoulder the burden of high bandwidth costs without the help of E-Rate. We have also become heavily reliant on VoIP phones. Migrating to VoIP phone service has enabled our teachers and administrators to communicate with parents in ways that were impossible with our old phone system. If VoIP service was no longer an eligible E-Rate service, our community would pay the price. Please help us maintain our fast broadband connection and strong community relations by increasing E-Rate funding for all schools and libraries.